

# THE GATEWAY

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Phil Scherer (11) busts out his skyhook during the Bears' weekend beating on the visiting Brandon Bobcats. Alberta won 77-72 Friday and 92-70 Saturday.

LEANNE FONG

## Tuition hike goes to 6.9%

Differential fees for business dropped

JHENIFER PABILLANO  
News Editor

Student leaders won a small victory on Friday when the U of A Board of Governors (BoG) dropped undergraduate business students from a University differential fee proposal, saving the students from paying an extra \$700 on top of general tuition.

But the success was tempered by a general tuition hike greater than the proposed 6.4 per cent. To offset the loss of revenue from business students, an increase of up to 6.9 per cent was approved, as were differential fees for the faculties of Medicine, Law, and the MBA program for next year.

While a crowd of students chanted anti-tuition slogans outside, Students' Union President Mike Hudema and Graduate Students' Association President Brad Wuetherick argued that student loan programs had not guaranteed any funding to cover the differential fees for business students, leaving them to shoulder the extra \$700 on their own next year.

PLEASE SEE TUITION • PAGE 2

## Now on the auction block, a \$32 000 student loan

Third-year U of A physics student tries to hock his loan on internet auction site eBay

JHENIFER PABILLANO  
News Editor

A U of A student hopes his student loan will be going, gone by the end of the year.

Third-year physics student Colin Beck put his \$32 000 student loan up for auction on eBay Canada, the popular auction website, hoping a good Samaritan will pay it off for him. Though his auction must end in ten days, Beck will try to extend it until the end of the year at a cost of \$2.75 per renewal.

The idea for the auction came up when Beck's girlfriend passed along a chain letter, describing an American university student who listed his loans on eBay.

"She thought it was a dumb thing, but I thought, 'That's a pretty good idea,'" said Beck.

"It cost me \$4, so I might as well try. It might mean some corporate tax write-off for someone, and paying off my loans for me."

The \$32 000 amount is Beck's loan over the full four years of his school-

ing, which he will finish next year. He doesn't expect to be able to pay it back for at least five or six years, and has signed up with the Industrial Internship Program, a U of A work experience program, to try to offset some of his costs.

"If there's someone out there who wants to help him, he's found an innovative way to ask."

ALEXANDRA BROWN,  
EBAY CANADA SPOKESPERSON

Living on his own in Edmonton, Beck is supported mainly by student loans: currently, he's racked up a bill of \$18 000.

Though he worked during school last year, his marks dropped considerably. This year, he's focusing on studying.

"Now I have no social life at all," he laughed.

PLEASE SEE EBAY • PAGE 2

## Polar bear environment barely surviving, says U of A arctic environment expert

SARAH SHUIJI  
JHENIFER PABILLANO  
News Writers

Polar bears may be extinct in 100 years unless we can stop the effects of global warming, says U of A polar bear expert Dr. Andrew Derocher.

Increased global temperatures are currently melting sea ice, a key part of the Arctic environment and a crucial element in polar bear survival. If current rates of melting continue, the predicted massive loss of sea ice could

mean extinction for the polar bears.

Polar bears, he explained, use sea ice hunting grounds to prey on bearded and ringed seals, which provide them with the couple hundred kilograms of body fat stores they need to survive during the long summer fast.

With the melting of the sea ice, they have less time in which to feed, and an increased fasting period.

In addition to these worries, pregnant females will not carry through their pregnancies unless they reach a certain body mass.

"Polar bears rely on sea ice, and what they eat also relies on the sea ice," said Derocher.

For the year 2050 and beyond, Derocher says data predicts a major retraction in sea ice due to global warming, saying scientists have talked about eventually taking a ship right over the North Pole. The Arctic has been a site for major environmental changes in the last few years, and Derocher is getting nervous for polar bears.

PLEASE SEE POLAR BEARS • PAGE 3



CHRIS AMN, JONG

DON'T ATTACK IRAQ CJSR personality Minister Faust speaks to the crowd at the Iraq anti-war rally on Saturday.



**7** Once upon a time, Iva Cheung wasn't praised for everything she did as a child. The results? An opinion piece about criticism, complacency and raising kids with panache.

### Inside

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### Outside

**Tuesday** Sunny, sculpt wisp of red hair anti-gravity style. High -19, Low -24.  
**Wednesday** Chance of snow. Prof Calculus donates slark-proof sub. High -18, Low -25.  
**Thursday** Snowy, search for Unicorn treasure; High -12, Low -22.  
**Friday** Muddy cloudy, lose Thompson twins in the briary deep; High -4, Low -13.  
Source: Environment Canada



### From the archives

In a referendum, 82.4 per cent of voting U of A students cast their ballots in favor of having full-time liquor outlets on campus. The location was undetermined. A liquor commission set up by the student council that ran the referendum was exploring the possibility of establishing a bar in RATT, which was already equipped with facilities for food service, on a trial basis. But doubt about whether a campus pub would be lucrative was prevalent, as information from a Pacific Western University Conference in Washington indicated that only one in six campus bars turned a profit.

1973



**12** Got a few spares this semester? Got no place to go? No one to love? No meaning for your existence? Check out today's feature and find out how to squander your ill-spent youth!

## THE GATEWAY

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Students' Union Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2J7Telephone 780.493.5168  
Fax 780.493.6665

E-mail gateway@gatewayuofa.ca

## editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF David "Skip" Zeibin  
edc@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.5168MANAGING EDITOR Raymond Biesinger  
managing@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6665NEWS EDITOR Jennifer Pabillon  
news@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.3208

## ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITORS

Leah Collins  
leah@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6664  
Kristine Owram  
kristine@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6664ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Adam Rozenhart  
entertainment@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.2052SPORTS EDITOR Brendan Proce  
sports@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6652FEATURES EDITOR Heather Adler  
features@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6654PHOTO EDITOR Patrick Finlay  
photo@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6648PRODUCTION EDITOR Iain Illich  
production@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6661CIRCULATION MANAGER Daniel Kaszor  
circulation@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.2168

## business staff

ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE  
NIKI Boyenko  
sales@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6700AD GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
Dave Leriger  
design@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6647BUSINESS MANAGER  
Don Iverson  
biz@gatewayuofa.ca | 492.6669OFF-CAMPUS DISTRIBUTION "STREETC" E  
sgtsbase@bigfoot.com | 480.8423  
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## contributors

James Elford, Joel Chury, Boris Kucuk, Peter MacKenzie,  
James Johnson, Michael Cull, Bryan Lee, Cameron Barr,  
Luc Cheung, Megan Watt, Drew Alexander, Trevor Miles,  
Alex Labuda, Michael Winters, Fish Grinkowsky, Kevin  
Ng, Megan Simko, Jon Yu, Lianne Feng, Chai Adu  
Jeong, Shawn Benbow, Kellie Brown, Matt Fehner, Mark  
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my head.

## Differential fee proposal passed despite SU fight



PATRICK FINLAY

Student Gordon Eadie taps the win-  
dows of the BoG meeting on Friday.

## TUITION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Adamantly opposed to the differential  
fee proposal, the students pushed  
instead for a 7.5 per cent general  
increase with a percentage earmarked  
for Medicine, Law, and MBAs.Raising concern about accessibility  
for low- and middle-income students,  
Hudema called for further studies  
before differentials were approved,  
citing Ontario studies saying the  
University of Western Ontario saw the  
number of low-income medical stu-  
dents drop by 50 per cent after differ-  
entials were applied to the medicine  
program. (University President Rod  
Fraser later disputed these numbers.)Wuetherick said approving the fees  
would be a "slippery slope," prompt-  
ing other programs to institute differ-  
entials.He spoke out strongly against the  
argument that differential fees would  
make the U of A more competitive  
in professional programs like law and  
medicine."Our lack of differentials makes us  
one of the most marketable univer-  
sities in the country," he said.Other members, however, argued  
differential tuition would provide the  
best solution for the tight financial  
situation facing the University. Doug  
Owram, University Vice-President  
(Academic), made a presentation  
showing the U of A as caught in a  
budgeting crisis, where provincial  
government funding isn't enough to  
adequately sustain skyrocketing costs  
due to utilities, staff salaries, and enrol-  
ment. Even with the fee increases, the  
University would have a \$7 million  
deficit, said Owram.John Ferguson, University  
Chancellor, expressed his concern thatmost people he had discussed the issue  
with did not think other University  
students should shoulder the extra  
burden for the professional programs.  
"I think the public wants tuition tied  
to earning potential," said Ferguson."I think the public  
wants tuition tied to  
earning potential."JOHN FERGUSON,  
UNIVERSITY CHANCELLORThe hike could push U of A basic  
tuition fees up by \$278, raising most  
student fees to \$4310 next year. The fee  
differential will also add extra fees on  
top of this higher tuition for Medicine,  
Law, and MBA students: \$2000 extra  
for medicine and law, and \$2500 for  
Master's of Business Administration  
(MBA) students. This is the second time  
the University has instituted differentialfees, as Dentistry students pay \$15 000  
in fees on top of general tuition.Following the decision, Hudema  
said the SU would continue their  
efforts to lobby the provincial govern-  
ment and the University. The SU  
will try to raise the profile of post-  
secondary education in Alberta by  
speaking with high schools, business  
groups and rural communities across  
the province to bring the issue for-  
ward.Although the tuition campaign this  
year saw only a small concrete suc-  
cess at the Board of Governors, the  
campaign has seen major triumph in  
motivating students to act, noted Hudema.Last Thursday, for example, 400 stu-  
dents attended a rally against tuition  
that marched down to the Legislature.  
"The main push to this campaign  
is to create a more active student pop-  
ulation," he said. "Hopefully it con-  
tinues, and students will push their  
student government to be more active  
next year."

## GRADUATE FEES

The Board of Governors also passed  
a motion implementing post-program  
fees for graduate students, supported  
by the Graduate Students Association  
(GSA).The post-program fees motion  
means that part-time grad students  
would pay \$595 to retain full-time  
status at the U of A. Full-time status  
would make many graduate students  
eligible for more grants and schol-  
arships, and would ensure tax benefitsand the interest-free status of their  
student loans.Many grad students are part-time  
scholars to allow time for thesis work  
and other non-instructional activities  
related to their degrees, making the  
fee practical, said the GSA.The proposal will be revenue neu-  
tral if most part-time graduate stu-  
dents can be convinced to switch to  
full-time status, which the GSA is con-  
fident will happen.

## No bidders yet in 'innovative' tuition auction

## EBAY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

eBay listing policies do not prohibit  
the auction of student loans through  
their site, said Alexandra Brown, a  
spokesperson for eBay Canada. But  
Brown explained that the auction is  
simply asking for \$32 000, and Beck  
can't actually transfer his loan to  
anyone who wins the auction."If there's someone out there who  
wants to help him, he's found an in-  
novative way to ask," said Brown."God bless the lad. I hope he does  
well in school.""God bless the lad.  
I hope he does well  
in school."ALEXANDRA BROWN,  
EBAY CANADA SPOKESPERSONeBay charges 1.5 per cent on all suc-  
cessful auctions above \$1450.01; so if  
someone does pay off the loan, Beck  
will owe \$480, added Brown.

But Beck doesn't really expect anyone

to pay, and says so in his auction  
description.Instead, he includes his address and  
an appeal for donations toward his  
loan. For those who do contribute,  
Beck acknowledges there isn't much  
reward, but he promises a personal  
thank you "certificate," telling view-  
ers that, "I would be indebted to you  
for more than just the money for your  
help." (Beck's loan is listed as a Student  
Loan "certificate," as eBay requires that  
he sell "something" rather than just a  
loan.)And in the end, shouldering a hefty  
student loan is worth it for the univer-  
sity experience, said Beck."[When] you're going to univer-  
sity, you learn a lot about responsi-  
bility... You learn about analytical  
thinking, about how assignments  
should be done on time just like in  
the real world, and it just changes your  
whole outlook."There are currently no bidders for  
Beck's auction, which can be viewed at  
<http://cgi.ebay.ca/ws/ebayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=2908235585>.

## STREETERS

With tuition set to raise 6.9 per cent next year, students at the  
U of A are spending even more on their post-secondary educationsIf you weren't going to University, what would you spend your tuition  
savings on, and what would you be doing?Laura Russell  
Nutrition and  
Food Science IIIMegan Wildin  
Science IJeff Sparks  
Nursing IRob Owczarek  
Computing  
Science IVI would go to culinary arts school. They  
take after the courses that I wanted to  
take here, so that would be my choice if  
I wasn't going to the U of A.I would be working and probably  
traveling. I would like to go to Europe or  
maybe work on a cruise ship.I would probably be working. I'm not  
completely sure what I would spend my  
tuition money on, but I would most likely  
spend it on something useless like a TV.I'd invest in stocks, and bonds, buy a car,  
start a life.

Compiled and photographed by Leah Collins and Kristine Owram

# Rider prof discusses 'riding bitch'

JENNIFER ROLLS  
News Writer

Katherine Sutherland doesn't "ride bitch."

As she explained in her Wednesday talk about the role of women within biker culture, "Riding Bitch: The uneasy ride of a chick rider," the derogatory term refers to a person who rides on the back of a motorcycle.

Sutherland, an English professor at the University College of the Cariboo in Kamloops, BC, visited the U of A on Wednesday as the first part of the English Department's Culture on the Edge lecture series. The aim of the series is to work within, and cross, the traditional boundaries between disciplines.

The talk focused on the contradictions that exist for women in motorcycle culture.

Sutherland currently teaches a course called "Motorcycles, Speed and Literature" in Kamloops, in which she studies the subject of women in motorcycle culture.

Sutherland observed one such contradiction at a Harley Davidson rally that she attended. Motorcycle culture can be very demeaning towards women, and in the instance of "riding bitch," Sutherland noted that women simply become grotesque motorcycle ornaments.

"At the rally there is a nighttime ritual parade where men ride around the campsite with topless women on the back [of the motorcycle]. They shine big movie spotlights on the women and everyone applauds. At any time during the rally, any man can come up to a woman and say 'show us your tits.' And presumably, if they are a good sport, they will."

But unlike the ornamental women riding on the back of a bike, she explained, "A woman who shows up at a rally on her own motorcycle is treated with great respect."

Interested in symbols representing power and speed within our culture, Sutherland said she found hood ornaments and their relation to women extremely fascinating. In her talk, she examined the historical evolution of hood ornaments and what that evolution has meant for society's portrayal of women.



**BIKERS AND BABES** Katherine Sutherland discusses women and motorcycles.

Examples of women as ornamentation can be traced back to the use of female figureheads on the prows of ships to "raid hot mommies" icons found on the nose art of World War II bombers, she said.

**"Women are merely ornamental and passive in the representation of speed: they are driven not driving."**

**KATHERINE SUTHERLAND,  
PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
OF THE CARIBOO**

She explained that the original female figurehead was the Winged Samothrace, the Greek goddess of

victory.

Sutherland argued that hood ornaments "often begin in a female form and then morph into hard androgynous icons of speed."

"Women are merely ornamental and passive in the representation of speed: they are driven not driving."

Considering the image that hood ornaments portray of women, Sutherland said there was a contradiction in what they symbolize.

"There is an interesting tension between assertion and passivity, rigidity and flow," explained Sutherland.

"The wings suggest power, freedom and escape to me, but at the same time, the lack of legs, the kneeling, suggest inertia and helplessness. There is a weird paradox in this representation."

For Sutherland, "the equation between bike and bitch makes women simultaneously powerful and inert."

## Prof to track climate change's effects on polar bears

**POLAR BEARS** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They're not actually endangered. They're basically what we call a species at risk, or a vulnerable species, a species that requires close monitoring of their trends. ... There is new research coming out that looks like the populations in Hudson's Bay may be starting to have some trouble. There's no critical sense that they're endangered right now, but it's quite clear that the trends are worrisome."

Derocher is one of about four polar bear scientists in Canada (three of which are in Alberta), and has been speaking out about the global warming threat to polar bears since 1993. His work focuses on population ecology, or how large Arctic mammals like polar bears live in their environments.

In April, he will head up to the Arctic with a team of scientists, tagging polar bears with Global Positioning System (GPS) collars.

The collars transmit their location to satellites, enabling the scientists to closely follow the bears for the next year to study their movements and habits.

Derocher says it will help them monitor climate change and its effects

on the polar bears in a more focused manner, and even provide public education about the bears.

"One of my plans is that you'll actually be able to go online and actually see where the bears are. That's something I'll be working with the territorial government, actually, to make that a live sort of thing," he said.

**"[Polar bears are] not actually endangered. They're basically what we call a species at risk, or a vulnerable species, a species that requires close monitoring of their trends."**

**DR ANDREW DEROCHER,  
U OF A POLAR BEAR EXPERT**

"You've got to be careful; you can't quite make it live, because then people will start saying, 'Oh, I know there's a polar bear right here,' and they'll try to go see it. So there'll be a

couple of days delay on it and you'll be able to look at where the bears are."

Derocher said Canada has the bulk of the world's polar bears—two thirds, or 15 000—and has taken some steps to ensure polar bears survive. In 1973, along with the other four polar nations (the USA, Greenland (Denmark), Norway, and what was then the USSR), Canada signed the International Polar Bear Agreement, due to growing fears of over-harvest in the 1960s.

The agreement stipulates that each signatory will carry out polar bear research, and share information between jurisdictions in an effort to conserve the species.

Presently, steps taken by Canada toward reducing global warming are encouraging, says Derocher.

"The Kyoto Protocol is a really good first step. I think that shows global leadership from a developed nation. ... If you look at things like acid rain, we've managed to basically deal with that as a problem by using technology and putting appropriate resources to work. So you can make changes, you can respond in a timely fashion."

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- Application deadline: January 31st, 2003

Applications available at SU Info. Booths in SUB, CAB and HUB, and at 2-900 SUB.

If you would like to review all Students' Union job postings, they can be found at this website: [www.usuthera.ca/work/rospde](http://www.usuthera.ca/work/rospde)

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1st Floor Administration Building

Student Receivables  
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3rd Floor Administration Building

## Cabinet shuffle leaves students without answers in Nova Scotia

### Critics want to know where Millennium funding has gone

CHRISTOPHER A WALSH  
*The Gazette*

HALIFAX (CUP) — Early last month, amid furor from students, Education Minister Jane Purves finally met with officials from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation to discuss where \$6 million in student aid savings went.

Days later, the situation became even more complicated for students as a cabinet shuffle saw the troubled minister bumped from her portfolio.

Student groups in Nova Scotia are still waiting for a meeting with new Education Minister Angus MacIsaac, wanting to know where the scholarship money has gone.

The province saved the money by axing its loan remission program two years ago, and used federal money to invest in student debt-relief.

They have not reinvested those savings into student aid as promised.

Student leaders and the Millennium Foundation have been calling on the province to explain what happened to the \$6 million.

Norman Riddell, CEO of the Millennium Foundation, met with Purves shortly before the cabinet shuffle and hopes the province will start reinvesting in student aid soon.

"What has concerned the foundation is reinvestment in student financial assistance," he said.

"We understood that's where the money would be going. In that regard, I am very pleased to tell you the minister had a number of very interesting proposals which she put in front of me today. However, I'm not really at liberty to discuss them, said Riddell."

"We're going to share our options with the students first and we're going to make a written commitment to the Millennium Foundation that we will be proceeding with the student debt-relief program," Purves said.

No one is sure exactly when a new student debt-relief program will be announced.

"It's frustrating to have a cabinet shuffle at a critical time," said Johanne Galarneau, president of the Dalhousie Student Union.

"We were getting somewhere with the student loan remission program and now we don't know what will happen."

**"It's frustrating to have a cabinet shuffle at a critical time. We were getting somewhere with the student loan remission program and now we don't know what will happen."**

JOHANNE GALARNEAU, PRESIDENT,  
DALHOUSIE STUDENT UNION

The provincial Department of Education would not put a price tag on the new program. The province has said it will wait for the next budget before announcing the details. That could be as early as February, but many are skeptical.

"We have no faith in the department anyway, regardless of who the minister is," said Galarneau.

Nova Scotia is the only province in Canada without a loan forgiveness program. Students in the province have the highest tuition in the country and have been without loan remission for nearly three years.

teaching and research assistants at Carleton.  
Adam Grachnik, Ottawa Bureau Chief

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Kristine Owram

### CONTRIVERSIAL PAINTINGS TO BE REPLACED AT SFU

BURNABY, BC (CUP) — Simon Fraser University has decided to put back some of the paintings removed from a campus hall last semester at the request of the First Nations Students Association (FNSA).

The paintings were part of a series created by Canadian history textbook artist John Innes in the 1920s. The FNSA was concerned by the historical inaccuracy of many of the paintings depicting the country's colonial past.

Of particular concern were two paintings illustrating the expeditions of explorers Simon Fraser and Alexander Mackenzie. The FNSA says that these expeditions did not actually happen in the "biblically triumphant" manner illustrated in the paintings, but that they were almost entirely dependent on Native guides and leadership.

The University says it wants the reinstated paintings to be displayed in the proper context, so that it is clear they represent one particular perspective.

Ian Rockborough-Smith, *The Peak*

### CARLETON TAs' TUITION INDEXED

OTTAWA (CUP) — Just hours before their strike deadline, teaching assistants at Carleton University won 100 per cent tuition indexation, linking a tentative agreement to avert a major work stoppage.

The agreement includes 100 per cent tuition assistance and allegedly includes a three per cent wage hike in the first year of the two-year deal and a two per cent hike in the second.

The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) wanted to increase their tuition indexation assistance from 75 per cent, which existed in the previous deal to 100 per cent.

"Essentially what it means is that tuition is frozen, so if it rises by 6 per cent we would get 100 per cent of it back," said Hassan Hussein, vice-president of CUPE 4600, which represents

teaching and research assistants at Carleton.  
Adam Grachnik, Ottawa Bureau Chief

### MEMORIAL GETTING FIVE PER CENT FEE CUT

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Newfoundland's premier has announced the government will deliver on its promise of a five per cent tuition reduction, dispelling concerns that they might be unable to complete their promised tuition decrease for students at Memorial University.

This is the last stage in a three-year initiative by Newfoundland's government to reduce tuition at Memorial by 25 per cent.

Although Memorial's Board of Regents officially sets tuition levels for the University's 16,000 students, for the past two years the province has made extra money available to the University with the understanding that it be dedicated to reducing fees. Memorial University is the only university in Newfoundland.

Steve Durant, *The Muse*

### UBC MAKES \$5 MILLION MISTAKE

VANCOUVER (CUP) — School officials say a \$5 million budgeting mistake at the University of British Columbia will be covered by future tuition hikes.

Brian Sullivan, Vice-President (Students) at UBC, admitted the University made a mistake when the revenue from last year's summer tuition was counted twice in this year's budget. The University consequently spent \$5 million it did not have on initiatives like more course sections, equipment improvements, and staff support.

Not wanting to eliminate these much-needed services, the administration will use some of the money from proposed tuition increases this year to sustain the initiatives in the future.

In addition, the University included \$4.3 million from the provincial government in its budget. This \$4.3 million was never received.

The University expects to counter this loss with increased federal funding, and will know in February if this funding will be received. Without this revenue, the administration will have to consider reducing expenditures in the future, says Sullivan.

Kathleen Deering and Chris Shepherd,  
*The Ulyssey*

**Dance Motif 2003**  
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Choreography by  
Orchesis members, faculty  
and guests which include:

Tamara Bliss  
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Kathy Ochoa  
Marsha Padfield  
Sharon Richardson  
Jodie Vandekerkhove

Myer Horowitz Theatre  
SUB, University of Alberta

Thursday, January 23 preview dance performance - 6pm  
Friday, January 24th & Saturday, January 25th - Curtain 6pm

Admission: \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door  
(SUB Mail ticket sales January 20-24)



## Dollars bend history in Romania

BACK IN 2001, THE CONCEPT OF DRACULA PARK was spawned. The tourism ministry of Romania, figuring that old Walt Disney wasn't the only immortal incarnation of evil that could make a killing in the theme-park business, pitched an idea they hoped would have Western tourists trading in their Mickey Mouse ears for Dracula fangs.

Dracula Park, an American-style amusement park to be built in the mysterious province of Transylvania, would boast a manufactured Castle Dracula, an institute of vampirology, spooky boutiques, various thrill rides, a golf course, and a host of on-site lodgings and spooky eateries.

If park planners were to be believed, these attractions would be expected to draw enough tourists so that within a year, old Drac could count on earning \$21 million and creating 3000 jobs. Built under the banner, "Made in Romania," planners expect the park to invigorate the weak national economy, but the really frightening part is that, although the bricks and mortar were taken from that post-Soviet state, the mythology is for the most part a foreign affair. According to the BBC, Romanian Minister for Tourism Matei Dan announced, "Dracula's myth exists—we want to package it nicely and sell it to tourists." But the myth they're selling is an image on loan from Universal Studios to imported Westerners. For the sake of making a buck, the real legend of a medieval prince who was infamous for impaling Turkish prisoners alive on wooden stakes is being more or less substituted by an American expectation of who Dracula is.

Since the 1960s, curious western tourists have appeared in Transylvania, searching for landmarks associated with Bram Stoker's vampiric anti-hero. But Romanians, unfamiliar with the Count, outside of the history of Vlad "the Impaler" Tepes (a ruthless medieval king from which Drac, his American cousin, is derived), failed to recognize the possibility of a vampire tourist industry for many years. Stoker's book wasn't available in Romanian until 1992, and films, such as the 1931 Bela Lugosi version, which introduced the familiar cape and fangs image, were illegal there until 1989.

If Dracula Park has just been following the Western model for their, their practice of making history more palatable, and for that matter, saleable, to audiences seems a well-followed track of the theme park trade.

Disney is notorious for its manipulations of history and legend, from its cloying take on the story of Pocahontas, to the sanitization of classic fairy tales. The Disneyland theme park itself "re-imagines" American history and culture from "Wild West" Frontierland to the quasi-futuristic utopia of Tomorrowland.

Even Moosejaw, Saskatchewan's Al Capone Tunnels take liberties with the past. The attraction extrapolates local urban legends of the famous gangster's involvement in a booze smuggling operation in an extensive tour of the tunnels where he allegedly ran illegal moonshine.

If Dracula Park does manage to acquire the funds it expects by jeopardizing its sense of history, the benefits to the country are debatable. But this is sure: Dracula Park is yet another example that those with money, in this case tourists, have the power to rewrite history.

LEAH COLLINS  
Associate News Editor

## No Mickey for you

SPAKING OF MICKEY MOUSE, who's heard about the copyright ruling recently upheld by the US Supreme court, stating that all existing copyrights would be extended another 20 years, to put the mark at a wholesome 95? US Congress made the original move in 1998.

So what does this mean for you? Namely that your entrepreneurial merchandising ideas will have to wait: if not for the ruling, some of the original Mickey Mouse cartoons would've soon become public domain.

BRENDAN PROCTOR  
Sports Editor

## LETTERS

### Students' Union press conference far from 'confused'

While we agree wholeheartedly with the spirit of Raymond Biesinger's 16 January opinion piece, "Accessible post-secondary is damned without Alberta's allegiance" (that any ultimate tuition victory will have to involve a multi-year, sustained effort directed at the province), his characterization of our press conference surrounding the University surplus as "confused" requires a rebuttal.

University Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark, in a meeting the morning of 15 January, did not deny that the University had posted surpluses for the past six years, and in fact used the word herself on a number of occasions. It was only a few hours later, during our press conference, that she decided that they were not surpluses at all, but rather "excesses of revenue over expenditure."

She then claimed that the operating budget itself ran a deficit. When presented with financial statements (signed by herself and available online at [www.financial.ualberta.ca](http://www.financial.ualberta.ca)) showing an operating surplus, she clarified that the University was due to revenues from restricted accounts; unrestricted accounts allegedly ran a deficit.

However, these surpluses (or "excesses of revenue over expenditure") were used to pay down the University's unrestricted net asset deficiency (or "debt")—if the surpluses in question were truly restricted, they could not have been used for this purpose.

Since these surpluses were unrestricted, they could have been allocated in such a way as to prevent the huge tuition increases we are now facing; the claim that the University "needs" continual tuition increases is therefore invalid.

There was certainly incredible confusion at our press conference, but it wasn't on the Students' Union side, but rather on the side of an administration whose only defense was the hope that people would be more likely to believe flag-bag from a vice-president making \$247,000 per year than the truth from a vice-president making \$19,000.

MAT BRECHTEL  
VP (Academic)  
STEVE SMITH  
VP (Operations & Finance)  
U of A Students' Union

### Boutet knows little, if anything, about guns

Chris Boutet's "Gun registration is my real girlfriend" (16 January) proved that he is ill-informed on the actual facts of current firearms legislation.

He also stated (though not in this manner) that he supports the Liberal's efforts to waste taxpayers money on a law that cannot decrease crime. Any (any) registration makes firearms more accessible to criminals, especially if they have a working knowledge of computers. I am absolutely positive that if my acquaintance in Computing Sciences actually tried, he could hack into the

database and find the location of thousands of firearms.

Anyone who has actually seen the words that came out of Allan Rock's mouth when he proposed Bill C-68 should understand that that time that man speaks, he's talking out of his ass. C-68 isn't just some bothersome registration bill that requires me to fill out mountains of paperwork just to acquire a hunting rifle. It is a clear-cut violation of the Canadian constitution (being the Charter of Rights and Freedoms). C-68 violates my right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure among many, many other stipulations of the Charter.

I, for one, think that Canada should actually punish criminals rather than simply say they had a bad childhood and set them free (really, this isn't much of an exaggeration). Though some may have actually had a bad childhood, nothing excuses criminal behaviour.

The registration C-68 refers to is registration of sporting arms. My hunting rifle is a piece of sporting equipment, just like your hockey stick or baseball bat. If I have to register my sports equipment, so should you.

DUSTIN DEGENHARDT  
Engineering I

### Hudema's rally language ugly, not becoming of a student leader

As much as I agree that tuition increases are reaching the point of ridiculousness, I will never again attend any rally, for tuition or otherwise, attended or organized by Mike Hudema.

Mr Hudema's choices of tactics seem rather questionable to me. I wonder how much effect calling Rod Fraser "ugly" had on the tuition fight, either positive or negative. I'd also wonder how Mr Hudema's electorate feels about this. I, for one, find Mr Fraser to be an average-looking man. While this is the most positive thing I can find to say about Mr Fraser, I feel Mr Hudema should have kept his remarks focused on the issue at hand and avoided personal attacks.

For those of you who attended the rally, whether you agree with these remarks or not, they reflect on you. By attending a rally, you are giving off the appearance that you agree with what the speaker is saying. Mr Hudema's comments directed at the President were tactless, childish, and irresponsible.

To prevent Mr Hudema from doing any damage to the reputation of the Student's Union, as well as students in general, I encourage all of you to join me in boycotting any of his future initiatives.

PAUL RWEIAKE  
Arts IV

### The BoG must suffer!

I confess: I didn't attend the Students' Union tuition protests. Not because I agree with increasing tuition, but like many students, I know that it doesn't matter how much we protest—the Board of Governors will do what it wants.

I have attended the University for seven years and every single year, the students hold marches and rallies, send postcards and do anything



else they can think of to get the BoG's and the media's attention. And every single year, tuition goes up.

I admire the students who slept outside University Hall in the freezing cold weather, flexing their democratic muscles and their right to protest, but obviously, the current strategies are not working.

Here's a suggestion that just might get the attention of the BoG and make them listen to the student body. If the BoG is so focused on money, let's play their game. Let's focus on money, too; just imagine it, next year, when the end of September roles around, every single student does not pay their tuition. We could bring the BoG to their knees.

Let's give them a taste of their own medicine and let them feel what it is like to be financially destitute.

CATHERINE MASTERS  
Pharmacy II

### Not a haiku

Emotionless fools!  
Monetary worship  
Risks environmental ruin.

Critics will expose  
Futility science like Lomborg's.  
Evidence? Scientists worldwide.

Private handbags are  
Symptoms of a culture of fear.  
Read Barry Glassner.

Intelligent youths  
Question power that rules them  
Because the price of democracy  
Is eternal vigilance.

MARIANNE KENNEDY  
Edmonton, Alberta

### Cunningham a fount of 'trashy insights'

Hey Cora, we get it. You have no problems talking about sex, your own sexuality, and a recurring theme of nakedness or some sort of nipple-peek.

Awesome. No not really, I don't, and I'm sure many others as well don't, care about your private physical check-ups, your drunken stupidity, and your personal views on promiscuity. However, you've had sex.

It's university, and we're all big people now. We've all had or dealt with sex in some way or another. But really, that doesn't matter because it's nobody's business.

Instead of telling everything in your personal life, tell something useful. Tell me a joke, some words of wisdom (if it's possible), or I'll be satisfied even with what sandwich is good at your mother's.

Now I understand that some people may say, "Hey, I like the way Cora Cunningham puts a funny twist on uncomfortable issues. It's neat!" But don't you think there are enough of those people already. Do we really need another Dr Laura?

Some issues are uncomfortable for a reason. They're serious. Mocking these issues makes them lose their substance. It's articles like yours that make crabs, or gonorrhea, or even AIDS sound like some funny experience that you hope to forget.

And another thing—what gives with the science crap. I read the Gateway so I'm not reading a text book. Your scientific metaphors are as lame as not knowing that independent assortment of chromosomes and crossing over causes genetic recombination. I mean, do we really need to hear how a date went as smoothly as the building of a Polypeptide or how some guy's nuts resembled a ribosomal subunit?

Well, Ms Cunningham, that is about all of my time that I'll waste on you. You keep on writing your little article of fluff and I'll keep filling my pool of hate for your articles.

Sometimes I don't know what's worse, your trashy insights or that ass-wipe of comic strip by Biesinger.

CHASE LONGENER  
Fine Arts III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to [managing@gatewayualberta.ca](mailto:managing@gatewayualberta.ca).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise defamatory.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

## THE BURLAP SACK

Sitting on the couch last night, watching the Golden Globes for three hours while perfecting my toe-nail painting, I had no idea of the laundry calamity that was to be caused by the Hollywood Foreign Press' annual televised brouhaha.

While I was forced to adhere to my slack-jawed gaze to the winning casts of *Chicago* and *Adaptation*, I left the left out of the inevitable dirty laundry cooler chat, pounds of dirty laundry continued to fester in my basement apartment.

Thus, I awoke this morning to find my underwear drawer nearly empty, save a pair of Spiderman undersocks leftover from a previous T-shirt purchase.

Said undersocks are little boy panties, designed for 60-pound wannabe Spider-men, and until I found myself faced with the dire threat of spending the day *au naturel*, I would never have considered fitting them on, with the circumference of my calf possible. But left in this appalling situation by the villainous Hollywood Foreign Press, I had no choice but to squeeze them on, with a little help from a wee tenc or two to the seams.

Individuals from Cameron Diaz, (who, as a Golden Globe attendee, was implicated in this underwear conspiracy) to my five-year-old cousin can unflinchingly pull-off wearing too-tight undersocks, but no one can escape the chafing, pinching claws of the Golden Globes.

For creating such an awards show with relaxed format and inclusion of categories from both television and film, the Hollywood Foreign Press is an evil organization of comic book proportions. Possibly run entirely by ex-Alberta CCF MPs and Dick Clark, the Hollywood Foreign Press operates from their sinister fortress of sinisterness, using their Soviet brain-control ray to force simplistic North Americans to abandon their laundry routines.

If there isn't some fancy UN regulation against watching the Nicole Kidman and Martin Scorsese of the world win their "awards," there should be, lest more wedgies be administered unnecessarily.

Or at least, a sack beating is in order, of Spielbergian proportions.

LEAH COLLINS

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

## Complex medical courtesy is a dull pain in the ass



CAMERON BARR

I am, to my eternal astonishment, a medical student; were I my own doctor, I'd run screaming straight through the wall, leaving only an amusing me-shaped silhouette in the plaster.

Be that as it may, I relished the opportunity to come out west for medical school. I was sick of the bloated and pongous east, exhausted from the political correctness and the steaming heaps of jargon that were laid on me and I was forced to dish out in equal measure.

**We learn concepts summarized by snappy acronyms. Although by the time they reach us, the words have been so twisted to fit said acronym they are beyond all human comprehension.**

I was ecstatic to study in a no-bullshit field, in a no-bullshit province. I mocked my friends, graduating from business and arts courses, venturing into the real world where they would toss about phrases like "process-oriented management solutions" and "synergistically improving business modality paradigms," all the while covering behind their little triangular nameplates reading "Joe Blow, Under Asst Jr Dir, Horizontal Integration."

I was going to medical school. I would use strong, manly, Spartan words like hematoma, and myocardial infarction. I would speak in clipped, Hemingway-esque sentences, and glance at my meaningful and manly copy text.

This theory, as it turns out, had more flaws in it than a Creationist biology text. We med students, it turns

out, have to take a course on how to relate to patients. Although the sections on how to take a patient's history and perform a physical are both necessary and welcome, an inordinate amount of time is devoted to explaining the theory behind doctor-patient interactions. And it's been my experience that inviting academics to come up with theories explaining anything is an invitation to a world of hurt and agony.

We learn concepts summarized by snappy acronyms. Although by the time they reach us, the words have been so twisted to fit said acronym they are beyond all human comprehension. We don't treat patients, we treat "whole persons," "individual units" at some point on the "family life cycle." We must remember to hold the patient in "unconditional positive regard," and according to several pamphlets, "enlist, empathize, engage, and do something else that begins with 'e'."

Above all, we must always consult the patient on their opinion regarding the nature of their illness.

"So, Mr. Johnson, what are your feelings about this sucking chest wound?"

"Billurmph."

"Was that a positive gurgle, or a negative gurgle?" (He dies.)

"I see... (making notes)"

We write texts where we play "match the concept with the buzzword of the week." Valid as many of these concepts may be—and, when you dig through the layers of fecal matter of bovine origin, most really are quite useful—I can't help but feel that the message is getting chewed up and spat out by the medium.

There is great value in teaching the doctors of the future how to relate to patients. I've had enough bad experiences with self-absorbed, paternalistic doctors to know that something needed changing in the medical curriculum. But the only thing of true importance I've taken away from this, so far, is a quote from Sir William Osler, great physician and Canadian export:

"Talk to your patients. They will tell you what's wrong with them."

It's so concise—it's medicine compressed to diamond-like beauty. I just wish the hordes of scholars dedicated to improving medicine could say as much with words so simple.

## Old dinosaur vs new



RAYMOND BIESINGER

I hate cars now, but I once loved one: a 1973 Plymouth Scamp with a 318 V8, two doors to let people in and two rectangular pipes to shoot all the grey poison fumes out the back. Brown body, brown top, light-blue on the inside, but red on the real inside, the inside the driver saw when the speedometer said 144km/h and Elk Island Park vanished behind its triumph-of-design rear-end.

**Cattle, trees, hills and tool kits haven't grown substantially since then. The only thing that's grown are car dealers' profit margins.**

At 144km/h, the windows would whistle, real sharp and loud, ready to fly off, just like President of the Alberta Motor Dealers' Association, Bill Watkin, said in a letter to the *Edmonton Journal* this Saturday: my brown darling, like many of her 30-plus-year-old sisters, was "a serious safety risk to Canadian motorists."

He's right, there, but the gist of his letter (a response to an editorial about how SUVs require emission regulation) is a bit of a deflection: it claims that SUVs and "luxury vehicles" are wrongly singled out as sources of greenhouse gases, and that older vehicles deserve as much scrutiny as these maligned beasts.

How so?

He refers to older vehicles "rusted out, brakes squealing and belching clouds of pollutants," as the "large" offender, as "studies have shown that even one of these older vehicles out-pollutes several similar current models put together." I'll agree there, too—a mangled catalytic converter can turn a '76 Mercury Marquis into the emissions equivalent of Fort McMurray.

But, what's Watkin's definition of "old"?

We can assume he isn't just thinking about the cars built before the OPEC cartel decided that 1973 was the year they'd make gasoline prices double,

forcing Detroit's auto makers to phase out their land-barges. That was confirmed by my cab driver last night, one who thought cars made before 1990 should be slated for bulldozing, guilty of environmental offences. That seems too new to me, but then again, to me, the Kinks are a fresh young R&B group from North London and television hasn't been invented yet.

But, what neither Watkin nor my cab driver noted was the number of these older monsters travelling the world is rather small and swiftly declining, while SUVs and larger trucks are a trend on the upswing, sold in numbers that make the older cars' numbers insignificant.

A mail to a few auto trade organization reveals that for the last ten years, an average of around 14 million vehicles have been sold in Canada, while some 18 million vehicles are registered in Canada as we speak. A little math will show that the vast majority of vehicles currently on the road are newer than a dozen years old.

In the meantime, the number of SUVs and trucks sold last year in Canada nears 400,000, and their emissions levels look more like they're from 1973 than 2003. And let's face it—we're not all cowboys, riggers and campers. And if you are, didn't you survive the late 1970s through to the 1990s without a 137" wheelbase?

What's changed? Cattle, trees, hills and tool kits haven't grown substantially since then. The only thing that's grown are car dealers' profit margins. Clever fumes they are: ones that represent sell 150,000 vehicles a year in Alberta, ones that talk to environmental ministers about related environmental policies from time to time.

If, as Watkin says, including older vehicles is essential to creating a "balanced approach to the greenhouse gas problem," I'd say we're playing with funny scales. The truth of the matter is, the last of the older cars are either being cradled by their owners or speeding towards their graves, with or without the assistance of government regulations.

The new-vehicle situation, though, is different. If we keep buying larger vehicles, SUVs and trucks promise to reinforce the flagging numbers of older emission-spouting dinosaurs with new polluters that'll be around for quite some time, even more ferocious after 20 years of road wear. And if it takes government regulation and fees to deter us from replenishing that herd, I'm behind them entirely.

This is Bob. Bob's having a great time 'cause he's sitting in a Molson Half Price Single Seat.

## Molson Half Price Single Seats

It's unheard of, but now you can purchase a Molson Single Seat for the next Oilers home game at half price! Tickets go on sale every game day at 12 noon until sell out. Cheer about that!

Tickets at Ticketmaster or call 414-GOAL.



# Criticism should be celebrated, mediocrity reviled

IVA  
CHEUNG

Another wave of music-talent-search reality shows is upon us, and once again, one tone-deaf hopeful after another will face devastating humiliation in front of a national audience.

Although painfully hilarious for the viewers, the experience is probably scarring for even the most shamelessly defiant of contestants, and worst of all, their tragedies could have been avoided if only one of their friends or family members had the balls to tell them they suck.

This is but one example of a rash of symptoms pointing to a North American pandemic of being proud of mediocrity, leading to a decline of quality in, well, just about everything, and we have nobody to blame but ourselves. After years of indulging in imperfection, we've become complacent, no longer even trying to strive for the best.

Now, I'm no sociologist, but I'd be inclined to point my finger at the late '80s and early '90s, when the whole notion of self-esteem became paramount. Low self-esteem leads to substance abuse and violence, said the experts, and combating blighted self-image became the next Tickle-Me-Elmo.

Sacrifices were made in the name

of making people feel good about themselves, their flaws brushed aside and their accomplishments praised, no matter how trivial or undeserving. Kids were congratulated for properly executing their bodily functions, their misbehaviour was deemed "cute," and regardless of the poor quality of excitement that smeared off of their crayons, any creation put to paper was "art" more than worthy of the refrigerator door.

**I'm arguing that, as friends, we have a duty to tell our loved ones when they're disgracing themselves around us so they don't end up disgracing up themselves around strangers—or on national television.**

Suddenly, criticism became taboo. God forbid people should be told they have room for improvement. As a result, we grew oblivious, or worse, unabashedly proud, of our inadequacies. And remarkably, rather than a decline in substance abuse and violence, people have just learned to be self-righteous about it.

Now, I'm not ignorant of the value of flattering someone you barely know to prevent an already delicate social

situation from becoming awkward ("Of course I like your cooking, Mrs. Powell").

I'm arguing that, as friends, we have a duty to tell our loved ones when they're disgracing themselves around us so they don't end up disgracing themselves around strangers—or on national television. Just as we wouldn't give a second thought to letting our friends know about the spinach stuck in their teeth, we should be equally comfortable giving honest opinions and constructive scrutiny to any talent our friends are seeking to showcase to people less accustomed to their foibles.

Taken out of context, these suggestions could all seem rather counterproductive. After all, isn't our media, showing image after image of hot flawless models, that's causing dysmorphic disorders and widespread feelings of inadequacy? While that's debatable, I, however, am not talking about aesthetics; I'm saying we've lost our drive to achieve perfection in skills that can easily be honed with practice, because mediocrity is just accepted by default.

When we point out flaws in our loved ones, it's not that we love them less or that we don't want them to succeed—there's a hypersensitive perception that a criticism from friends suggests we're not appreciated for who we are, or that they don't believe in us, which is just more ego-driven crap.

I mean, wouldn't it be easier to hear it from your mother than some arrogant British jackass on multi-national television?

people? Seem to end every sentence? With a rising inflection?

And don't get me started on pronunciation and enunciation. There is a difference between the natural slips or slurs in everyday speech and actual laziness or ignorance of the way words and syllables are pronounced.

Before you bristle with indignation at my arbitrary accusations, let me say this: It isn't just that the English language has some utterly illogical rules of pronunciation and spelling. I am also aware that language is constantly evolving—whether we like it or not, "d'oh" is now in the dictionary.

All I'm saying is, pay attention once in a while. Speak with precision and add some variety to your vocabulary. Learn some new words; remember some old ones. (Hint: reading is very good for this. C'mon, you might even enjoy it.) Drop the pop-culture teen-speak and find yourself a dictionary, for crying out loud.

And if you simply can't be bothered with multiple or unfamiliar syllables, at least try to cut back on the repetition (and redundancy), and enunciate on occasion. The world will be more appreciative for it.

# Broken femurs avoidable

TREVOR  
MILLER

woke up in a pool of blood, a broken man in the woods beside the trail.

Due to the hard work of my family, ski patrol, and a now-unseen man named Paul, all I ended up with was a broken femur. And though it felt like I was leg-humped by all seven dwarves, I'm lucky to be alive. With the cuts on my face, and bruises over my entire body, it could have been much worse.

As it worked out, though, I am essentially confined to a laying down position when not travelling, and even that rarely proves to be comfortable. I—a man who considers himself fiercely independent—now feel forced to rely on the compassion of others.

This is quite humbling for me; even worse was having to use a motorized scooter on my first day back to get to class. Please don't misinterpret me, I adamantly support the use of scooters for people with a necessity, but I sure didn't feel right using one. To be truthful (like Mommy), I doubt I would even be half as mobile as I am now.

So I entreat you, ladies and gentlemen, as I have before but never as fervently, wear the safety equipment. It may look funny, you may feel bulky or unwieldy; there's a plethora of different reasons. But the bottom line is that it's there for a reason.

Whether skiing or riding, skydiving or pursuing the fruits of I'amour, don the gear that will keep you alive. I, too, used to scoff, but now the Seventeen Riders of the Apocalypse won't keep the helmet off my head next time I hit the slopes, sometime in six months or more from now.

Halfway through the second day, the proverbial "hammer" fell. The last words out of my mouth were, "Oh, so you wanna see a little air, eh?" Then I

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# Stretch your reach, mind your speech

MEGAN  
WAITT

If you're even a fraction as nosy as I am (though I prefer "curious" and "inquisitive"), you understand the inherent appeal of eavesdropping. Combine said nosiness with a propitious sense of humour—and, if you're feeling less than benevolent, a good dash of *schadenfreude*—and the hours of entertainment you can glean from eavesdropping are legion.

You might have noticed that first paragraph used a lot of longer words which aren't usually heard in normal conversation. That wasn't by accident. So why did I bother with "legion" when "many" does just as well?

It began with eavesdropping. I was on the train, gazing amiably at the tunnel walls flying by and, as I so often do, listening to the conversations around me.

My inspiration came from two girls chattering about their weekend inheritance and capricious boyfriends. Only, neither of them said anything like "capricious" or "inheritance." Instead, they said things like "it was such a blast" and "that really sucks."

Their language caught my attention. I started listening to the story, and started listening to the repetition and redundancy. They used the same few adjectives, conjunctions and interjections over and over; yeah, that's cool, like, really good, it's so great, you know?

And of course, it isn't just those random young women—I was hear-

ing a lot of people, including myself: the so's and really's seemed to fly out of my mouth before I realized I was saying them.

Now, I'm guessing we don't even register this redundancy of language most of the time. It's probably as routine for our brain's language processors as breathing is for our lungs.

**Have you ever noticed? How a lot of people? Seem to end every sentence? With a rising inflection?**

And what's wrong with breathing, you might ask? It could be argued that the development of vernaculars are both natural and necessary. And they are, of course. Shortcuts and repetition in language make understanding each other easier and faster. True as that may be, it is an exceptionally poor excuse for the verbal equivalent of illiteracy.

Deficient vocabularies aren't the only conversational ailments going around. Have you ever noticed? How a lot of

## Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Adult films for seniors

- 10 Humpty Old Men
- 9 The Golden Shower Golden Girls
- 8 Gummers II: Denture Adventures
- 7 Geriatrics
- 6 Beyond the Valley of the Viagra Vixens
- 5 Debbie Does Florida
- 4 69
- 3 The Orthopedic Shoe Diaries
- 2 Drivin' Miss Daisy
- 1 The Antique Chode Show

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## WEEKEND SCORES

Canada West conference records are listed

**Basketball** **Pandas (5-9)**  
 17 January **Pandas 76**, Brandon 41  
 18 January **Pandas 65**, Brandon 30

17 January **Bears (10-4)**  
 18 January **Bears 77**, Brandon 72  
**Bears 92**, Brandon 70

**Volleyball** **Pandas (12-4)**  
 17 January **Pandas 3**, Saskatchewan 0  
 18 January **Pandas 3**, Saskatchewan 0

**Bears (16-0)**  
 Not in action

**Hockey** **Pandas (14-0-0)**  
 17 January **Pandas 6**, Regina 4  
 18 January **Pandas 5**, Regina 0

**Bears (17-2-1)**  
 Not in action

## ATHLETIC NOTES

## Swimming

Twenty U of A swimmers qualified for the CIS nationals 21-23 February in Victoria, BC, at the Canada West championships in Calgary this weekend.

## CIS nationals — qualifiers

**Pandas**  
 Elizabeth Amer  
 Marla Bretkreutz  
 Shannon Frey  
 Shannon McNally  
 Colleen Nuc  
 Kristina O'Brien  
 Kelly O'Toole  
 Annamay Pierce  
 Jessica Sherwood  
 Tracy Ross  
 Katie Yalte

**Bears**  
 Shane Brewer  
 Borrey Kim  
 Gord McGary  
 Ryan Pandos  
 Andrew Sweet  
 Martin Thorne  
 Charles Turanich-Noyen  
 Michael Vanden Ham  
 Maciek Zielnik

## Basketball

Breaking a five-game conference losing skid, the **Pandas (5-9)** won a pair of matches against the Brandon Bobcats at home this weekend. Pandas guard Amanda Smith scored 19 points Saturday night, a personal best this season.

The **Bears (10-4)** prevailed in both of their weekend breakers with the Bobcats highlighted by a 23-point comeback in the second half on Friday. Mike Melnychuk had the most productive game of the weekend, netting 24 points on Friday night.



10/28/2000 The Pandas' last conference loss. MARK WOYTEK

## Hockey

Not even the best competition in the Canada West conference can quell the **Pandas (14-0-0)**, who beat the Cougars both nights at the Drake this weekend.

## Volleyball

Laurie Eisler's **Pandas (12-4)** won both of their matches in straight sets versus the Huskies in Saskatoon this weekend. Power Tawana Wardlaw and left-side Jenna Konifowski each had eleven kills during the first match Friday night.

## Track and Field

The 31st annual Golden Bear Open ran in the Butterside this weekend. See page nine.

## Wrestling

Chris Maynes finished second and Owen Dawkins finished fifth in the 84kg and 96kg weight classes at the Guelph Open 17-19 January in Ontario.

## Hoop women drub lowly Bobcats



76-41  
Friday



65-30  
Saturday



MICHAEL CUST  
Sports Writer

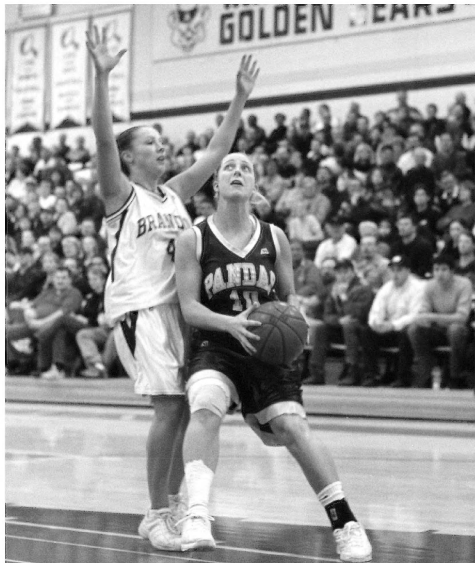
Sometimes you need to dish a good drubbing to raise your team's spirits.

Heading into the weekend, the Pandas had lost five straight conference games, two of them to the division-leading Calgary Dinos. Their at-home series versus Canada West's worst team—the Brandon Bobcats—was an opportunity to pick things up. Pandas head coach Trix Baker was confident her team was going to pull out two victories. The stats heading into the weekend were tight, but talking to Baker, one wouldn't know it. It seemed the Pandas knew they were going to win.

And they did.  
 Friday night, they spared their opponents no mercy in a lopsided 76-41 victory. Pandas veterans Christine Shewchuk and Amanda Smith netted 18 and 19 points respectively, while the team hit 85 per cent of its free throws. This set the stage for Saturday night's game. The Pandas came out, took an early lead, and never looked back. By half time the Pandas were ahead 32-9. And by the end, they more than doubled Brandon's score, 65-30.

"Sixty-five points is not a lot against this team," said Pandas coach Trix Baker. "We could have got more, but we stopped ourselves."

The Pandas had no trouble containing the Lady Bobcats. Brandon connected on an abysmal 21 per cent of their field goal attempts. In the first



Guard April Kanderka (10) and the Pandas had no trouble winning two from the visiting Bobcats. LEANNE PONG

half alone, their shooting percentage was a miserable 10 per cent.

"We played good D despite the fact they can't score," stated Baker.

Through most of the game, it looked as if the Lady Bobcats were playing in a league where they didn't belong: their play was characterized by poor passing and a sloppy offense. Most notably, the team showed an inability to properly carry the ball up the court.

Despite their opponent's low calibre, the Pandas felt the victory was good for team morale.

"[The win] gets us on a good roll for the two conference teams in the next two weeks," said fifth-year guard Amanda Smith, who picked up 25 points on the weekend.

The Pandas head to Lethbridge next weekend to take on the third-place Pronghorns. In two

weeks, the Pandas return home for a series with the second-ranked University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

"If we win the next four games, we can finish second," stated Baker.

The Pandas currently reside in fourth place in the Mountain division of the Canada West conference.

## BEARS

The men won their sixth and seventh straight conference games against the Brandon Bobcats in front of full crowds at the Main Gym this weekend. On Friday, the Bears overcame a 23-point deficit to win 77-72. On Saturday, the Bears were 92-70 victors.

Next weekend, the Bears are in Lethbridge to take on the unranked Pronghorns.

## Puck Pandas triumphant in competitive series

The women won both their matches this weekend, despite Regina scoring four goals on Friday



6-4  
Friday



5-0  
Saturday



BRYAN LEE  
Sports Writer

Runs at Clare Drake Arena finally got what they've been longing for all year: a pair of competitive women's hockey games. The Pandas triumphed, however, 6-4 and 5-0 on Friday and Saturday respectively.

Fourth-ranked Regina (10-5-1) demonstrated their similarity to the undefeated Pandas (14-0). Each team donned the green and gold and is built around a stacked offensive unit.

For the Cougars, it's Julianna Foster, Brandy West and Erin Tedy, along with Joell Fidler on the blue line. They had the task of outpacing Alberta's top line of Danielle Bourgeois, Kristen Hagg and Lori Shupak, as well as Judy Diduck behind them. All eight players are in the Canada West scoring top ten.

"When you pair two really offensive lines,

it's left up to the offence to decide the game. If your role is offence, chances are you're not the best defensive unit." CIS leading scorer Danielle Bourgeois explained.

"Maybe that was an error on our part because maybe they should have put their best checking line out against us. They didn't put any added pressure on us," she added, noting Regina's inability to shut down the Pandas' top line. Shupak scored twice and Bourgeois once in Friday's 6-4 win. Bourgeois reached 20 goals on the season with a hat trick on Saturday, paired with another two goals from Shupak, for a 5-0 Alberta win.

Despite the dominating scores though, these were entertaining, high-paced games, unlike previous conference contests. When the Pandas missed a pass, had a giveaway or took an unnecessary penalty, it cost them. Regina got four goals on Friday, the most anyone has scored against them all year.

The difference though, especially on Saturday, was that Regina made more of these mistakes. All five goals on Cougar goalie Andrea Charanduk were from breakaways, had giveaways or tipped shots.

Also, after the Pandas had a 3-0 lead in the first period on Saturday, Regina showed their frustra-

tion by taking a high-stick call, and three seconds later, a double-minor. To their credit, the Cougars killed off the penalties, but it proved the Pandas were in control.

"It's been us and them the past five years in the Canada West. They hurt us a few years ago (2001), and we decided to make it a team effort to not let that ever happen again," Bourgeois stated, emphasizing the bad blood between the two teams that showed in the physical games this weekend.

The other big factor for the Pandas had to be experience, especially from Judy Diduck, team captain and a member of the 1998 Olympic team. Her offensive style of play on the blue line has filtered through to others, like defenders Jill Chmilar and Lara Ruppell. While Regina's defence tended to park on the blue line during offensive attacks, Diduck and Ruppell each scored once on Friday. Diduck added four assists on Saturday.

"Judy's a fantastic person, on and off the ice," rookie Lindsay McAlpine praised. "She's unreal talent: an awesome person, shows great leadership, and just brings so much to our team."

"She brings us back down to level, and keeps us calm and confident with the puck," Bourgeois added. "She brings everything to our team and brings us all together."

# The allure of individual sport

A look at the chaotic, spectator-challenged world of competitive track and field

BRENDAN PROCE  
Sports Editor

Disorder reigned Friday, the first day of the Golden Bear Open track and field event held in the Butte dome this weekend. Spectators sprinkled the stands and competitors practiced all around: long jumpers in the sand pits, runners around the track, vaulters and weight tossers in the middle of the Pavilion. Mr. Gord Lindsay, the self-proclaimed "unofficial voice of track and field in Alberta," was the guiding voice through the chaotic weekend. For one race on Friday, times weren't recorded due to a technical error. On Saturday, some track athletes were slotted into the wrong races.

"You don't want to talk to me," said Ryan Kelemen, the Bears runner who won the senior men's 1500m B heat with a time of 4:07.34. "That was the B heat. The A heat is about to go," he said, pointing down the track to the runners who were crouching into starting position.

"They made a mistake; I was supposed to be in the A heat," he explained. Kelemen, who also runs on the cross-country team, predicted he could have finished in the top three of the A heat; his B heat time would have been good for second place in the top race.

The idea of training incessantly for

an event that only lasts a few minutes (or a few seconds), especially if you're eventually slotted in the wrong race, seems crazy. Why devote the time to it at all?

"My life's all about it," said middle-distance runner Brad Howe, from the University of Calgary Dinos. "It gives me something to do. Whenever everyone else is watching television, I do this." Howe finished the men's 1500m A heat at 4:08.37, good enough for second place (which would have been third, had Kelemen been allowed to run the correct race).

Those involved in track and field treat it as serious business. Training can run five or six days a week, several hours per day. Athletes interrupted by reporters were curt and understandably cold—there's nothing quite as strong as an athlete's karma, and few forces more lashing when distracted. "Get OFF the track!" was heard more than once on this weekend.

Bears and Pandas track and field coach Jim Slepica was ever-present, encouraging his array of athletes however he could, and often. "Excuse me," he said, while discussing Golden Bear pole vaulter Jamie Johnson. "I've got to go pump up my athlete." It was Johnson's first competition of the season, and Slepica described him as a top-ranked competitor. In the end, Johnson finished third in the



Track and field isn't a spectacle: there are no mascots or T-shirt giveaways. Those who observe it aren't looking for flash or showmanship; they are looking for specific, refined skills, and for the individuals who can accomplish them best.

senior men's pole vault, clearing 4.55 metres.

Others seemed content to put in the long practice hours as hobby. Amy Ford, who is on both the cross-country and track and field teams, finished fourth in the senior women's 1500m at 5:05.21, falling just short of her hoped top-three finish.

"I was just outkicked towards the end," she said. "I tried to speed it up at the finish, but didn't do it fast enough."

"I've never run track before, but my teammates encourage me, and I have a good time doing it."

As for why she does it, she simply



PHOTOS BY MATT FRESHER

replied, "Why do people do most stuff? I'm not sure." The nursing student graduates this summer and is uncertain of her athletic ambitions beyond the CIS level.

The start of the senior men's 60m final marked an odd period of silence. "These are the Ferraris, Lamborghinis and Porsches of the sprinting world," announced the public address speaker. "Quiet for the start please." The runners crouched, the gun fired, and Dave Bissett, the only member of the U of A varsity squad in that race, ran the length in 7.10 seconds, good for a seventh-place finish.

"I practice five days a week, two

and a half or three hours a day," said Bissett, who is also a running back on the Bears football team. "It's fun to win, to see how good I can do. It's pure competition."

"In other sports, like hockey, you can work you ass off and miss the cut. In track, however, you put in your hours and you get results," said Golden Bear Robbie Nissen, who won the men's 1500m A heat with a time of 4:01.32.

Asked if enthusiasm for track and field is based more on winning than some other sports, he replied, "It's all how you define winning. For me, running is the time of my life."

## Is There a Role for the Social Sciences in Environmental Management?

Come join us for a discussion of the social and economic challenges and issues that confront food, natural resources, and environmental management, as well as opportunities for interdisciplinary study in the social sciences at the University of Alberta.

January 25, 2003, 1:00-5:30pm  
5th Floor Lounge in Agriculture-Forestry Building

### Topics include:

*The Challenge of Integrating Social and Environmental Values in Management;*  
John Thompson, NCRB

*Public Participation in Forest Management;*  
John Parkins, Canadian Forest Service

*Conflicts Between Ecological Protection and Recreation;*  
Michael Den Otter, Parks Canada

*Information Technologies and Management in Food Value Chains;*  
Bob Burden, Serecon Consulting

*Agricultural Biotechnology and the Role of the Consumer;*  
Dianne McCain, AAFFRD

*Social Challenges to Practicing Conservation Biology;*  
Samantha Song, Environment Canada.

*Student perspectives of education in the social and environmental sciences*

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17

# INTERESTING, STUPID, OR FUN WAYS TO KILL AN HOUR BETWEEN CLASSES

WITH ANOTHER TERM UNDERWAY, YOU MAY FIND YOURSELF WITH AWKWARD LITTLE SPACES BETWEEN CLASSES, OFTEN ONLY ONE OR TWO HOURS. NOW, YOU COULD STUDY, RESEARCH SOMETHING IMPORTANT AT ONE OF OUR LIBRARIES, OR VISIT YOUR PROF DURING THEIR COINCIDING OFFICE HOURS, BUT WHO'D WANT TO DO THAT? INSTEAD, HERE ARE A FEW DECENT, AMUSING OR STUPID SUGGESTIONS TO HELP YOU AVOID WORK DURING THOSE AWKWARD ONE-HOUR PAUSES.

## NUMBER 1

Take the LRT somewhere. It doesn't matter where, exactly. As long as you've got a bus pass, it's free. Go to Clareview and back, and watch things become more and more sketchy as the ride progresses. Avoid it like the plague around 3pm to 5pm though, unless you feel like hearing some school-aged tramp babble on and on about how many guys she humped at the party last weekend. If you've got two hours to spare, pick up a chocolate bar and some lukewarm choy at the Superstore in Clareview. Or see how far away you can get from campus without venturing into the outside world by wandering the LRT system or the rat maze of downtown pedways.

## NUMBER 2

Propose a scavenger hunt with some of your friends. Select a degrading and moral-less punishment for the losers. Try the STD game and seek out people with all kinds of obscure genital ailments (hint: go to Lister Hall), or see who can collect the most obscure artifacts from across campus. Or play the points game and rival your peers to see who can strike up the most inane conversations with strangers, or even hobos in HUB.

## NUMBER 3

Explore a section of the campus that you've never really been to before. Arts students may want to try to find the Faculty Club. Ag/For students may want to check out what's showing at the Fine Arts Building Gallery. If you've got several hours and a bus pass, visit the Faculté Saint-Jean. It's amazing what you can find if you stroll aimlessly for long enough. Wander into the BioSci building. Take random turns at 25 corners, and try to go up at least a couple of staircases. Close your eyes and spin around five times. Now, find your way back out. Take an elevator up to the fourteenth floor of the Tory building. Admire the view through the grimy windows. Then, walk up to the mysterious fifteenth floor. Take the other, less publicized staircase back down.

## NUMBER 4

Walk along Saskatchewan drive. There are paths leading down into the river valley, too. Cross the High Level bridge, look back at the Tory building. If you've got some extra time, explore the grounds at the Legislature. Few people are aware of the vast underground complex that lies under the fountains, parks, and reflecting ponds. Stop by one of the cafés on 109 Street to warm up after your walk. Enjoy the incredible view from middle of the bridge.

## NUMBER 5

Wait in line for a computer at one of the many overcrowded campus labs. Try the Knowledge Common, in particular. When you finally get a terminal, make the best of it by hogging an absurd amount of bandwidth. Bring headphones, and watch live, streaming video from around the world, knowing full well that you're slowing down the connections of everyone else in the room. Try not to shout when someone cuts in line. Set the background on the computer to be: bad Japanese anime, pornography, or albino elephant midgits on parade before you leave.

## NUMBER 6

Four words: Wrestlemania with SU hacks. It's extra fun if you can scissor-kick a high power executive as well, like Rod Fraser.



**Words** IAN LUCH  
(WITH FILES FROM HEATHER ADLER & CHRIS ROUTET)  
**Photos** SHAWN BENBOW & KELTIE BROWN



## NUMBER 13

Have tea at Ruthford house. It's located on Saskatchewan Drive, by the Humanities Centre and Tory Turtle, and opens at 11:30am, Tuesday to Sunday. Bring a book (not a textbook, you hopeless square), and relax in the ambience of olden times. The prices are very reasonable, the freshly made raspberry butter is delightful (especially on the warm-from-the-oven scones), and the calm, quiet surroundings are the perfect escape from the bustling, noisy HUB next door.

## NUMBER 7

People-watching is always enjoyable. Sit in HUB and watch folks angrily push past slow walkers. Eat some fries and revel in the feeling of diabetes surging into your sloth-like blood stream. Maybe find a seat in the Humanities or Fine Arts buildings. Count the number of people you see in turtles. Compare results with friends. Venture into the computing science building and tally up the number of nerds with laptops, Palm Pilots, and trench coats. Ask them why UNIX is so awesome and how to set up a firewall.

## NUMBER 8

Go to the Butterdome. Play some sort of sport. Badminton, basketball, etc. Run around the track. Burn off some academic fat.

## NUMBER 9

Amble into the PowerPlant, or RATT. Enjoy a pint, or a glass, and a snack. Tip the server kindly. PowerPlant breakfasts are a particular bargain and are often ready quite quickly. Just make sure you show up before 11am. Put on some extra academic fat! Mmmm pancakes.

## NUMBER 10

Read a newspaper to find out what's going on in the real world that you hear so much about. This one will do nicely though for a greater selection (or for one not full of complete lies) you may want to check out several of the places in HUB. Try to do the New York Times crossword and annoy random people with questions regarding "six letter words that relate to the capital of Chiang Kia-shek." Make a funny hat, or boat with the newsprint after you're finished and give it away.

## NUMBER 11

Take a walk to one of the off-campus merchants that stock Pepsi products. Buy several cans, bring it back on campus, and drink it in an open place. Wait for the corporate sponsorship Gestapo to come take you away.

## NUMBER 12

Money fight! There is nothing as enjoyable as tossing crisp twenties at your fellow time-squanderer

## NUMBER 14

The AgFor building has a delightfully warm display greenhouse full of plants that are somehow kept alive in our harsh, miserable Edmonton climate. It's an especially welcome treat on those frigid winter mornings when summer seems so hopelessly far away. As an added treat, many people have "deposited" their birds in the AgFor jungle over the years, populating it with quite an impressive flock. Sam, the little green lovebird, is the local celebrity, and is known mostly for his remarkably friendly attitude toward visitors. If you're really patient, he'll land on your arm, sometimes crawling all the way up to your shoulder. Sometimes he'll even scat in your hair as he soars gracefully overhead: truly a remarkable creature.

## NUMBER 15

Let's face it: you've got nothing better to do, so why not fritter away the best years of your life in hourly installments in front of the Mars Attacks pinball machine at RATT? As an invading force of martians tries to conquer Earth, it's up to you to dispatch them in typical pinball fashion, ie. hitting them with a steel ball. Sure, it sounds lame, but at a buck for two plays, it's cheaper than the adjacent Golden Tee game and a lot more fun than watching the bar staff play Scattergories in between shifts every freakin' day. Can you save the human race? I did.

## NUMBER 16

Join a club. Here at the U of A, we've got a club for pretty much every possible human interest ever in the history of mankind, so chances are you'll find something you like. Although just filling out the paperwork to register for a club alone is a great way to spend your off-time, the rewards really start rolling in later: down at Student Groups, it's like a locker, apartment and friend box all in one. And who knows, you just might meet your future husband, wife, or hetero lifemate at the next Metroid Appreciation Society luncheon!

## NUMBER 17

If you're into books, check out the current exhibition at the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library. If you're really into books, check if they've got an early copy of a book by your favourite old-timey author. Breathe in the aroma of old paper and ink. Appreciate the history behind the item you're holding. But if you're wandering into the radii of Ruthford, watch out for sticky editions in the back of greatly neglected shelves; those are a tell-tale sign of people taking advantage of the dim lights and secluded space for quick lovin'. If you hear moaning, abort your plans to thumb through someone else's thesis immediately. Squandering your time rolling in the hardcovers with that special someone is not advised as a wise time-passing choice: paper cuts hurt, and so do handcuffs when Campus Security picks you up.



FILE PHOTO: DESOUE GOSSEN



# Comedy Festival showcases national, local talent

## Funny on Film

Tuesday, 21 January at 7pm  
Stanley Milner Library Theatre

### JAMES ELPORD

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Maybe it's a side effect of being stuck inside on cold winter nights, but Edmonton's film community seems a lot more active than its blue-collar prairie city roots would suggest.

Add Canada's traditional disproportionately high number of comedians per square kilometre and you've got the basis for *Funny on Film*, a showcase of local- and National Film Board (NFB)-supplied comedy shorts.

Part of the Fourth Annual Comedy Arts Festival (presented in partnership with the NFB and FAVA), *Funny on Film* is a reminder to Canadians that there is plenty of film talent that doesn't run screaming for the border (or Vancouver). While the local shorts may not have the polished gloss of professional work, they possess a certain charm due to the inventiveness and fresh creative energy of low-budget filmmaking. These are not films that make money for their creators: the only return is the self-satisfaction of knowing something they poured a little of their heart into is appreciated.

While the NFB works are of the quality expected from those supported by government grants, the FAVA-supplied material features a number of filmmakers who have carved out a niche for themselves in the local scene. For example, Wes Borg and Paul Mather have redone their hilarious sketch "Welcome to the Internet



THE ART OF THE COMEDY Marianne Sinkovics with her works, displayed in the Stanley Milner Library as part of the Comedy Arts Festival.

JON YU

Help Desk," taking time to transform it into a full comedy short. Some may remember this kit from their performance at the inaugural Comedy Arts Festival opening, or from the success it has found on the Internet; in either case, it remains as horribly true and funny as ever.

Another good short is one from local entertainment writer/film critic Dave Alexander, who (along with co-conspirator Colin Landry) puts his own ass on the line with *Extreme Crutching* to show that you can create something very

funny by just screwing around with a camera. If you haven't seen this yet, and either love or hate skate/snowboard videos, I'd recommend catching it.

In addition to the shorts, there are trailers for *Turnbuckle* and *Purple Gas*, feature-length movies by the Draft Six and Bill Minsky respectively. Both are excited to have a chance to preview their movies at the festival.

"We wanted to get people hyped a bit," explained the Draft Six's Kevin Gillespie. Bill has

a similar view, and admits that while no one approached him with the idea of screening the full features at next year's festival, he wouldn't be opposed to the idea.

"It's a great venue to get exposure for film and comedy that's being done in town."

While the festival may be showcasing better-known stand-ups like Steven Wright or Elvira Kurt, don't miss the opportunity to see some homegrown cinematic comedy before it decides to leave the city.

## THE DOWNFALL OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION

It's become cliché to say that award shows are meaningless bunk. *The Simpsons* takes every opportunity to point this out, as do a variety of lame sitcoms. Self-aware, those sitcoms are.

Frankly, I wish network television would quit showing self-congratulatory Hollywood nonsense like the Golden Globes or the Oscars. Since that isn't likely to happen anytime soon, would someone please let Dick Clark die peacefully, or at least eliminate the "red carpet" specials?

Nobody cares about the colour of Sarah Jessica Parker's lion cloth. We care about impending doom and the decriminalization of marijuana. Don't we?

ADAM ROZENHART

The Downfall of Western Civilization is a semi-regular feature where we tell you what on earth is wrong with the entertainment industry. Sure, there are a lot of things wrong, but some things chap our hides. *DWC* retrieves the chapping.

## CJIS TOP 10

1. Richard Buckner *Impasse* (Overcoat)
2. Off the Duke *Life Stories For Minimum Wage* (Three Gut)
3. Indian Police *World War 4* (Indy)
4. *CSR 18th Birthday CD* (CJSR)
5. *Godspeed You Black Emperor!* *Yanqui U.X.O.* (Constellation)
6. *The Bottle Let Me Down:* *Songs for Bumpy Wagon Rides Various Artists* (Broadshot)
7. *Gigabon Planetary* *Gigabon Planetary* (Oh Toronto)
8. Bruce McCulloch *Drunk Baby Project* (Sonic Unryon)
9. *Black Heart Procession Amore Del Tropic* (Touch and Go)
10. Add N to (X) *Like Nature* (Mute)

## Finally, a balanced romantic comedy

*A Guy Thing* has elements that appeal to both sexes, instead of just Julia Roberts fans

### A Guy Thing

Directed by Chris Koch

Starring Jason Lee, Julia Stiles, and Selma Blair

Now playing

JOEL CHURRY

Sleeping-over from the Sports section

Before his mysterious death last year, Robert Zemeckis was known for his work on *Forrest Gump* and the *Back to the Future* series. He almost ruined his career by editing his movies' trailers, which almost always blew away the ending in the 40-second snippets.

What *Lies Beneath* and *Getaway* were prime examples, where all the impact scenes of the movie were shown to interest the potential audience. Now if Zemeckis was trying to bring more movie to the theatre, why would MGM try to push us away from seeing their *A Guy Thing*?

I'll explain: during the movie's trailer, half of the film's build-up is ruined in order to show the movie's innocent nature. We are immediately informed that Paul (Jason Lee) didn't actually sleep with Becky (Julia Stiles). That's right, our hero was too good to do something like that.

The plot evolves from Paul's attempts to cover up his actions (or inactions as we have already established) at his bachelor party. The audience is led to believe that he slept with a Tiki dancer named Becky who was hired for his party. His supposed rendezvous with her is not that bad—the fact that Becky is his fiancée's cousin, is.

As predictable as this genre is, the romantic comedy is evolving. No longer are guys being forced to attend screenings of movies backed by the star power of Julia Roberts or Sandra Bullock. *A Guy Thing* tries really hard to balance of what each gender's market wants. There are the sweet clumsy romantic offerings, but the movie con-



LEE LEE'S Paul (Jason Lee) tries to skip out on his wedding rehearsal.

tradicts itself with gross-out humour.

This is not to say that director Chris Koch or writer Greg Glenna have produced anything worthy of being Farrelly brothers-esque, nor is this a sweet love story. This movie is an all-male attempt to make a balanced date movie. Think *Men Behaving Badly* meets *Runaway Bride*.

Jason Lee's performance is decent, but deters his growth as an actor who has taken us from the cynical Brodie in *Mallrats* to the lead singer of Stillwater in Cameron Crowe's *Almost Famous*. This must've been his cash-reasons-only picture. Fortunately it is Jason Lee, who has the facial expressions to make a bumbling groom-to-be role actually funny. He is flanked by Stiles, whose

role as the instigator is important, but she doesn't have the acting ability to make the audience fall in love with her character. Selma Blair is promoted as having a major part in the movie given her status as Paul's fiancée, but her role is small enough to fall in with the rest of the hilarious ensemble.

*A Guy Thing* relies on stereotypes about men to make Paul the centre of an even bigger joke. The guys in the film all seem to condone Paul's actions, and even male strangers lie on his behalf. Besides the generalizations about the male gender, this movie still offers itself as a safe bet as a date-flick. Seeing it will promise a crotch-scratching good time.



# Lawrence continues to suck

## National Security

Directed by Denis Dugan  
Starring Martin Lawrence, Steve Zahn,  
and Eric Roberts  
Now playing

BORIS KULUSIC  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

You know when you come out of a movie and you think to yourself, "That movie could have been so much better"? Well, this movie isn't one of those.

That's not to say I didn't smile and chuckle a bit at the recycled humour of the oppressed black man, but after hearing so many jokes like this in other movies, many of better quality, it lost its effect after half an hour.

But what can you say about Martin Lawrence, who doesn't appear to want to venture into any other territory besides the one he's treaded in before? He does comedy after comedy, and it seems that the jokes stay the same, but with different characters and a sub-standard plot.

Steve Zahn, Lawrence's partner in this flick, has a bit more variety in his acting, but a film like *Happy*, Texas shows his comedy credentials.

The movie begins with Hank (Zahn), a police officer, and his partner investigating a warehouse break-in. Hank's partner is killed by one of the crooks. Meanwhile, Earl (Martin Lawrence) gets kicked out of the police academy for being too overzealous during training (actually a pretty good scene). But now back on duty after his partner's death, Hank encounters Earl, who's locked his keys in his car. As a result of this encounter, Hank is convicted of police brutality, when in fact



**DOPE ON A ROPE** Martin Lawrence, sadly, lives through this scene.

all he was trying to do was swat away a bumblebee. Hank gets kicked off the police force and is forced to spend six months in prison.

While on duty for a security firm called National Security, Hank gets involved in yet another break-in (different warehouse) where Earl is working guard duty. Hank discovers that the job is being pulled by the same guys who were involved when his partner was killed. After this, a chase to bring the robbers, and Nash (barely played by Eric Roberts) to justice,

in which both Earl and Hank participate, is undertaken.

Along the way, gunfights occur, the oppressed-black-man/white-guy jokes ensue, the heroes get the bad guys and everything ends up hunky dory. But the white jokes and the oppressed-black-man jokes get a little tired, and the movie gets a little boring.

So please, save your precious money and rent something else. If you can't wait to see it, save it for the dollar theatre; trust me, you won't be waiting that long.

## SITE UNSEEN



[www.carthedral.com](http://www.carthedral.com)

ADAM RUZENHART  
Entertainment Editor

We all have our dream cars. Dr. Emmett Brown had his DeLorean, David Hasselhoff had his KITT, and the Pope has his Bubble Car. But Rebecca Caldwell had a zanier, loftier dream: Carthedral.

## CULTURA OBSCURA



**The Magic Word Ball**

JAMES ELFORD  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

a 1971 Cadillac hearse modified to look like the Ghostbuster's Ecto-1, except with all the crazy wiring and sirens replaced by a cathedral made out of a Volkswagen Beetle.

Why build such a thing? Though her actions are never explained in any detail aside from "why not," it doesn't seem to matter. All that matters is that this car has a frickin' cathedral set on top of it, and she can (and does) live inside of this car for most of the year.

Caldwell has travelled all over the western United States in her home, and has been met with many a slack-jawed gawker. She's been pulled over a few times, but only by police officers with questions about how she built the car.

But what would this monstrous cathedral do to the mileage, clearance and speed of this "car"? All those questions are answered: Carthedral gets about eleven miles to the gallon, and is shorter than most standard clearances in the US. As for speed, this mobile flying buttress can still cruise at a good 65 miles per hour.

The HR Geiger-inspired roadster is currently undergoing some repairs, but will be back on the road in the spring.

It's no Ecto-1, but at least you can have Mass inside it every Sunday.

Hey kids! Need an adjective? How about a verb? A noun maybe? How about 30 million of them? If you answered yes, then you're in luck because that seems to be how many the Magic Word Ball contains.

Found deep inside the mystical recesses of my grandparents' basement, the Magic Word Ball conjures up a plethora of useful English words. For example: plethora. Wow!

Obviously invented by some mad English genius for diabolical reasons our puny minds couldn't possibly even begin to fathom, this big white ball of words is deceptively simple. Turn the knobs and the thousands of tiny plastic strips inside will be shuffled about. Logically, one might suppose this would allow you to find new words, but most of the time the strips are facing the wrong way or cover each other up.

Still, when the ball does work it can provide words to those with writer's block and give morons a larger vocabulary to abuse. Now you know how to finish off that 20-page research paper.

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Chi-Sun, the Asian Persuasion, belts out a few guitar riffs last Saturday night at the PowerPlant.

ADRIEN GREGG

## Mass media ruins another great man

Tommywriter and Who guitarist wrongfully criticized and portrayed by mainstream media

JAMES JOHNSON  
Arts Commentary

Chances are you've already heard the controversy surrounding Pete Townshend, the latest hyperbole from the sensationalist mass media, not to mention the latest tragedy for rock 'n' roll. In case you haven't heard, here's the scoop:

Last week, Pete Townshend, guitarist for the Who, was arrested by authorities for viewing and purchasing Internet child pornography. As if the Who haven't suffered enough, having bassist John Entwistle die on the eve of their reunion tour last year.

But if you've been relying on mass media outlets for the news on this, you haven't been getting the full story. The fact of the matter is Townshend was never arrested, or even charged, he was only taken into custody for questioning, and was released the very next day.

Furthermore, Townshend informed police as to his intentions long before he even visited these sites: to do research for a novel he is writing on child molestation. He visited these sites to gain an insight into the pedophile's mindset.

Even if you choose not to believe any of this, his innocence can be proven with a cursory look at his career. He was molested as a child, and as such, has dedicated his career to combating pedophilia.

His resumé includes the rock-opera *Tommy*, which centred around a character who was molested as a child. Townshend has also donated a sizable amount to causes that fight against pedophilia.

Regardless, media pundits have leapt upon this incident with voracity, and the general public gobbles it up. Townshend's name has since been cleared, but the damage has been done. It is difficult to see what long-term effects this black mark will have on his life, now that he is nearing the end of his career.

Regardless, media pundits have leapt upon this incident with voracity, and the general public gobbles it up. Townshend's name has since been cleared, but the damage has been done.

But Townshend is yet another in a long line of legends destroyed by the media. Ozzy Osbourne, once the godfather of metal, is now a pale shadow of himself reduced to a long line of curses; Michael Jackson, king of pop, has had his career, and life, destroyed by the media constantly hovering over his shoulder.

It's questionable whether these celebrities were actually wronged because of media exposure, but one thing is certain: in Pete Townshend they've killed a good man who was a hero both on and off the stage.



### Kutless

Self-titled  
Tooth and Nail/EMI  
www.kutless.com

PETER MACKENZIE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

From the moment you put this in your player, it's obvious what kind of album you've got on your hands: roaring rock guitar, solid vocals, engaging harmonies, Christian lyrics. You know what I'm talking about.

I was impressed by the variation on this disc, from rapping in "Pride Away," through hints of cello and piano on the final track, "Grace and Love," showing a bit of innovation.

But there's a lot of rock that tastes exactly like Creed, Linkin Park, Nickelback, System of a Down (albeit without the Christian lyrics). As such, I can't say I expect this album to be more than a blip on the horizon, but it's great to see such maturity from the Christian rock genre.

Maybe give this band a few years to play the field, develop those harmonies and find a niche, and we'll see something better, more refined, and more original. Kutless is just about there, but they'll need a little more to be on the cutting edge.



### Whitney Houston

Just Whitney  
Arista  
www.whitneyhouston.com

JAIN ILICH  
Production Editor

Whitney's latest effort is, simply put, OK. There's a diverse range of rhythms, melodies and sounds, many of which are good, solid R&B jams. Somehow though, *Just Whitney* lacks the spark to set it apart from the sea of urban pop that it finds itself squarely in the middle of.

To make up for the paltry 39 minutes of music, the disc comes with an unfortunate bonus DVD featuring behind-the-scenes footage of children in suits flailing about spastically. Other than that, the DVD is quite useless, as it includes only two more videos—a lame techno-remix-melody of Whitney's greatest hits, and "Whatchulookinat," a perplexing piece of visual mush.

While there are songs that certainly hold their own, nothing on this album is quite up to the level of her previous work.

Whitney still has a great voice, but she's definitely capable of more than just the cutting edge.

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## NSERC UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS

**Field of Study:** Natural Sciences and Engineering  
**Value:** \$4500 over four months plus departmental supplement  
**Number:** Variable

**Conditions:** A candidate must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident at the time he or she applies;
- be currently registered as a full-time student in a bachelor's degree program in the natural sciences or engineering;
- have completed at least the first year of university study (or two academic terms) of a bachelor's degree;
- must have attained a cumulative GPA of at least 6.5;
- not be registered in a general or professional degree program;
- not have started a graduate program.

**Donor:** Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada  
**Apply:** To the Department/Faculty with which you wish to hold your award.  
**Deadline:** Deadline for Departments/Faculties to forward applications to the Student Awards Office is 31 January 2003.

## DR. HORST A SCHMID TRAVEL BURSARY

**Value:** \$500 to \$1500  
**Number:** Variable

**Conditions:** To be awarded to University of Alberta undergraduate students to aid in the costs of travel on an international academic exchange based on satisfactory academic achievement, financial need, and past travel experience. The institution the student plans to attend must be one with which there is a formal U of A ongoing exchange (consult the International Centre for a list of formal U of A student exchanges).

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB, and the International Centre, 172 HUB International.

**Deadline:** 1 June 2003

## SANDY MACTAGGART AWARD

**Value:** \$25,000  
**Number:** One

**Conditions:** Awarded annually to a University of Alberta undergraduate or graduate student to assist him/her in undertaking study abroad for one year in the Orient as part of a University of Alberta degree. The award is given to the student who best balances competence, effort, and financial need. Applicants must have satisfactory academic standing to apply. The successful candidate will show demonstrated ability to benefit from pursuing academic studies in the Orient, show an interest in learning more about Oriental peoples and cultures, and show an interest in fostering international understanding.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB.

**Deadline:** 18 February 2003

## SUMMER LANGUAGE BURSARY PROGRAM 2003

Learn French through the Summer Language Bursary program. This program is an intensive language learning course. Recipients will stay in a student residence on campus or with a home-stay family who speak French. All expenses are paid, except for travel costs, pocket money, and child-care services, if applicable.

**Value:** \$1625 which covers tuition fees, instructional materials, meals and accommodation for a five-week course  
**Number:** Variable

**Conditions:** Candidates must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents; have completed at least grade 11, or be at the postsecondary level by the time the course begins; and have been a full-time student for at least one semester during the 2002/2003 school year.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB.

**Deadline:** 15 February 2003

## UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD MUIRHEAD EXCHANGE AWARD

**Value:** \$1500 per year  
**Number:** 3

**Conditions:** Candidates must be University of Alberta undergraduate students, have a minimum 6.4 cumulative GPA, have completed one full year of studies at the U of A prior to starting the exchange, and be nominated by the U of A to participate in an international exchange with the University of Sheffield.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB, and the International Centre, 172 HUB International.

**Deadline:** 15 February 2003

## DEAN'S UNDERGRADUATE CITATIONS

### Business/Education

**Value:** \$7,500 (payable over three years)

**Conditions:** To be awarded annually to students with superior academic achievement entering the first year (after completion of the pre-professional year) of an undergraduate degree program in the School of Business or the Faculty of Education. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of academic standing (minimum grade point average of 8.5 or equivalent) on courses taken during the pre-professional year at the University of Alberta, and marks achieved in high school (minimum high school average of ~95%) will be considered. This award is renewable for up to two years contingent upon achieving a minimum grade point average of 7.5 on a full normal course load.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB.

**Deadline:** 1 March 2003

## DR. and MRS HAZEN HANKINSON DEAN'S UNDERGRADUATE CITATION IN MEDICINE

**Value:** \$12,500 over four years (Medicine)

**Conditions:** To be awarded annually to students with superior academic achievement entering the first year (after completing the entrance requirements for Medicine) of the MD program in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of academic standing (minimum grade point average of 8.5 or equivalent) on courses taken during the previous two years at the University of Alberta or another postsecondary institution. This award is renewable contingent upon achieving a minimum 80% in the MD program in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB.

**Deadline:** 1 March 2003

## CANADA EXCHANGE SCHOLARS PROGRAM AWARD

**Value:** \$2000 for one term; \$4000 for full year  
**Number:** Variable

**Conditions:** Awarded to University of Alberta undergraduate students to assist with the costs of participating in the Canada Exchange Scholars Program with the University of Western Ontario, McMaster University, University of Waterloo, Université Laval, and Université de Montréal. Students must be registered in an undergraduate degree program and be nominated to participate in CANEX by the U of A. Students must have a minimum 6.4 cumulative GPA and have completed one full year of studies at the U of A prior to starting the exchange.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB, and the International Centre, 172 HUB International.

**Deadline:** 15 February 2003

## QUEEN ELIZABETH II SILVER JUBILEE ENDOWMENT FUND FOR STUDY IN A SECOND OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AWARD PROGRAM

**Field of Study:** All disciplines, except translation, are eligible.  
**Value:** \$5,000 plus travel costs  
**Number:** The University of Alberta may nominate one candidate to AUCC.

**Conditions:** Candidates must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents and be currently enrolled in the second or third year of their first undergraduate university program. Candidates must have sufficient ability in their second official language to pursue their studies in that language. In addition to having good academic standing, candidates must also be well motivated and adaptable. Preference will be given to candidates who wish to study at another educational institution, in a milieu in which their second official language is predominant.

**Where Tenable:** At any Canadian university which is a member, or affiliated with a member, of AUCC and which offers instruction in the student's second official language. Courses must be undertaken on the campus of a Canadian institution in Canada.

**Apply:** Applications are available at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB.

**Deadline:** 21 March 2003



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**Specialized Support and Disability Services and CAPS** present a Disability Disclosure workshop on Wednesday, 22 January, 2003 from 4pm to 5:30pm in 2-725 SUB. All students are welcome. Admission is free. Have you ever wondered when, how or if you should tell a potential employer about your disability? Whether you are looking for summer work or pursuing your career dream, it is wise to know your options for disclosing your disability. Please pre-register at either CAPS (2-100 SUB) or SSDS (2-800 SUB), or e-mail [joanneyardley@ualberta.ca](mailto:joanneyardley@ualberta.ca).

**The Linguistics Club** presents Corpora and What They Can Tell Us About Language on 24 January, 2003 from 7-9pm in BUS 1-6. Dr John Newman, Chair of the Linguistics Department, will be presenting his research in the field of Corpus Linguistics. Everyone is welcome to attend, and there is no charge for admission. For more information, please e-mail [lingclub@ualberta.ca](mailto:lingclub@ualberta.ca).

**UA-WISE (U of A Women in Science and Engineering)** presents Science and

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Need valuable volunteer experience and a great reference? Fluent readers needed to read texts onto tape for blind and partially sighted students. If you are interested in volunteering, come to the SSDS office at 2-800 SUB.

## LOST AND FOUND

Found: Heart-shaped gold ring with an aquamarine birthstone in it. Found in October in fourth floor lounge, Education building. Contact Campus Security for more info.

## THREE LINES FOR A TOONIE

In case you're unaware of such things, you might want to go and pay your tuition sometime soon. If you don't like waiting in line, either pay online with a credit card (if you've got enough of a limit), or drop by a branch of the Bank of Montreal. Both are totally easy to do, and much, much cooler than an hour long wait in a stuffy, packed building. Remember: standing in lines is for chumps. -e

JPH! Holy crap! Montreal! Here we come! Off to the land of Frenchies and real poutine. Oh, and that hotel setup will be pretty sweet. Poor Paul; he's gonna hate us. Or we'll hate him. Nothing's gonna stop us now. 87D

## SEVERAL LINES OF IAIN'S MISCELLANEOUS DRIVEL

She told me that my shoelaces were untied, a smile creeping along her mouth, her eyes glancing downwards at the limp ends of string binding my footwear together. We'd been in the same over-lit room for well over half an hour, me reading a copy of *Green Eggs and Ham* while she flipped through page after page of well worn, year-old *Economist*. Everywhere around us, the walls preached pearly whites, extolled the glories of losing, screamed about the perils of tartar. Neither one of us looked at all comfortable in the clinical florescence of the space, only there for a six month checkup, never for anything exciting like chips, root canals, or mysterious sports injuries. I smiled back sheepishly, very aware of my imperfect, coffee-stained teeth. Her feet tapped quietly on the floor, following the beat of the soft-rock playing through the cheap, circular speakers mounted in the ceiling.

Engineering Job Search Seminar on Wednesday, 29 January, 2003 from 5-6:30pm in the BioSci Cafeteria (fourth floor). Learn how to market yourself and search for jobs. Admission is free and pizza will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

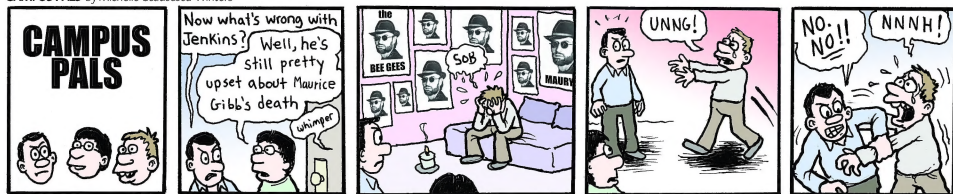
**The Academic Support Centre** presents a Study Strategies & Exam Preparation Workshop on Saturday, 1 February, 2003 from 10am to 3:30pm in 2-725 SUB. The charge for admission is \$50 for students and \$100 for non-students. Covers time management, note-taking, reading and memory strategies, and how to study for and take multiple choice, short answer, essay and problem solving exams. Those planning to attend must pre-register. For more information, please contact the Academic Support Centre at 492-2682.

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PATRICK FINLAY

## CAMPUS PALS by Michelle Ceausescu-Winters



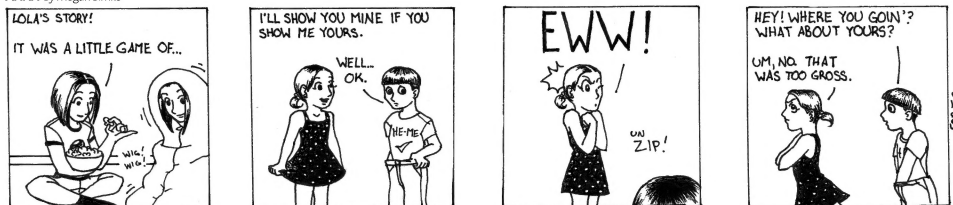
## SPACE CAT: SHIT-FILLED PIÑATA! by Fish Griukowsky



## COMPUTER BLUES by Kevin Ng



## ANNA by Megan Simko



## POLAR &amp; BROOKLYN by Alex Labarda





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